

PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 0074/073001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shinji INOUE et al. Art Unit:
Application No.: filed concurrently Examiner:
Filed : May 18, 2006
Title : RECORDING MEDIUM ACCESS DEVICE AND RECORDING
 MEDIUM ACCESS METHOD

Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicants request that the references cited on attached form PTO-1449 (a copy of which is enclosed) be considered by the Examiner in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 CFR 1.104.

Enclosed also please find a copy of the International Search Report citing eight of these references. The relevance of these eight references can be seen from the International Search Report. The English abstracts for the Japanese Patent Application Publications are also enclosed.

Please note that two of the enclosed Japanese Patent Application Publications and the 2 technical literature publications are discussed on pages 3-4 of the specification.

Please also note that enclosed are copies of U.S. Patent No. 6,493,787, U.S. Patent Application Publication Nos. 2003-0109179, 2003-0137887 and 2004-0123059 which are the English language counterparts for Japanese Patent Application Publication Nos. 2000-259783, 2001-306182, 2003-288564 and 2004-86503, respectively.

This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

Information Disclosure Statement

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Page 2

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at the telephone number listed below. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 18, 2006


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EXAMINER INITIAL*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			NAME	DATE MM-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Kind Code ⁵ Office ³ (if known)	Number ⁴					
		JP	63-159460	U	OGAWA	10/1988		
		JP	6-195524	A	UMEDA et al.	07/1994		X
		JP	8-272541	A	OTSUKA et al.	10/1996		X
		JP	10-116329	A	ISHIKAWA	05/1998		X
		JP	2000-259783	A	YAMAMOTO et al.	09/2000		Abstract
		JP	2001-290708	A	IIZUKA	10/2001		X
		JP	2001-306182	A	KANESHIRO et al.	11/2001		Abstract
		JP	2003-233795	A	HIROTA et al.	08/2003		X
		JP	2003-288564	A	NAKABE et al.	10/2003		Abstract

DATE CONSIDERED

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Complete if Known

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 3

Filed concurrently

May 18, 2006

Shinji INOUE et al.

Examiner Name

0074/073001

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DATE CONSIDERED

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*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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